

Amendment to the Chairman's Mark

Offered by Representatives McCollum, Van Hollen, Schwartz, Doggett, Yarmuth,
Pascrell, Ryan (OH), Moore, Bass, and Bonamici

Protect Women from Discrimination in Health Care

1. At the end of Title VI, add the following:

“Sense of the House on Protecting Women’s Equal Access to Comprehensive,
Affordable, Quality Health Care”

- (a) The House finds that---

- (1) according to the Centers for Disease Control, one out of seven women has no reliable, source of health care;
 - (2) women are denied coverage because of “pre-existing conditions” such as having had a C-section or having been a victim of domestic violence;
 - (3) insurance companies charge women more than men for coverage, a practice known as gender rating. According to a recent study, women on the individual market are charged as much as 85% more than men for coverage;
 - (4) only 6% of individual market insurance plans include maternity coverage in states where it is not mandated;
 - (5) the Affordable Care Act (ACA) protects women by banning insurance companies from denying coverage and charging them higher premiums than men.
 - (6) the ACA stops insurance companies from dropping coverage because of pregnancy or breast cancer.
 - (7) the ACA ensures that maternity services are covered by insurers in the individual and small group markets; and
 - (8) the ACA provides women in new health plans coverage of important preventive services at no cost-sharing.

- (b) It is the sense of the House that insurance companies should not deny women insurance coverage or charge them more. All women should have the right to access the

full range of health services they need. The Affordable Care Act strengthens and protects this right. It is further the sense of the House that Congress should not make laws that interfere with a woman's ability to make her own health care decisions.

2. Amend the committee report to reflect the following policy assumptions:

The resolution assumes full implementation of the Affordable Care Act and other applicable laws assumed in the baseline estimates prepared by the Congressional Budget Office that protect and further strengthen the right of all American women to have equitable access to the full range of health services.